

Kikuchi-
sensei!!

SHERLOCK BONES

Please
turn
yourself
in!

Do it...

You can
do it,
Watson...

It's time
for the
coup de
grâce!!



you wore
during Fourth
period swim
class, isn't
it?

...for her
sake!!

...This is
the wig

ア

swim
cap!!



You wanted
everyone to
see you had
wet hair.

Earlier
today...



was wrapped
up tight
inside a
waterproof
rubber swim
cap!!

But that wet
hair was a
wig. Your real
hair...



...

But in reality...



As soon as class was over, you disappeared to where your students couldn't see you...

so that you could dry your hair... Or that's what you wanted us to think, for your alibi.



You went to the prep room, where you quickly removed the wig...

You only pretended to go dry your hair.





and made your way to the second floor restroom in the main school building.

Changed your clothes



Be-
cause...



Jōya
Ushimaru.

You knew he'd be there. He was always there smoking on Wednesdays at fourth period.







...took the picture of the clock tower...

...typed out the suicide note on Uchiwano's phone, just like you'd practiced...



...and sent it to all his contacts in the school.



...You put the knife in his hand...





to the
singular
sight
of that
moment.

...And
that
brings
us...



Then...



...



and threw
it down the
garbage chute.



The garbage
truck would
come within two
hours,



Yes.



...Am I
right?

Kikuchi-
sensei!



the garbage collectors didn't come.

But unfortunately,



...has fallen into your hands.

All the evidence with my fingerprints and Ushimaru's blood...



...I had no idea you were such a smart kid, Wajima-kun.

...

I'm not...



Honestly...

I never have any luck...



Remember
when you ran
into Mamoru
and me at
that restau-
rant...?

Wajima-
kun.



I WON'T!
BUT I
DON'T
THINK ANY
SHOULD
HAVE
ANYTHING
TO DO
WITH TRUE
LOVE...



I'M SORRY,
BUT WOULD
YOU PLEASE
NOT TELL
ANYONE?



I think I
understand
why you
killed
Oshiwaro...
But....

I'M HIS
MOTHER!

...Yes.
That's
why...

WOO!
BZZET! OH,
YOU'VE
NOT LOVERS,
BUT!



It was
about
three
months
ago...

...came
to me for
advice.

Ma-
moru...



You
don't
under-
stand.

You
don't
under-
stand
any-
thing...

Sen-
sei...!



What...

Mom...
I...

I smoked a
cigarette...

Then he
threatened
me...and
made me
smoke,
too...

One of the older
students was
smoking in the
bathroom. I ran
into him on my
way back from the
nurse's office...

Wh...why
would
you...?



...

Am I...am
I gonna be
expelled...?

B-but I know
that's no
excuse... I'm
sorry...



If he threatened you, then you didn't do it of your own free will, right?

Silly boy.



I...can't tell you...!

...!



I...I can't tell you...



So who was it? Who made you smoke?

...!



...

Then...



I looked at the medical office records to find out when Mamaru would have been smoking.

I discovered one student who would always be counted on to skip class at just that time.

It was Jōya Ushimaru.



I ambushed him in the bathroom.

I made him write an apology, promising he would never smoke again.

I caught him in the act of smoking.



Of course, I never told him that I had heard anything from Mamoru.

In exchange, I promised to settle the matter quietly, and not tell the administration...



But Ushimaru was convinced that Mamoru had sold him out...

and Mamoru became the target of that vicious bullying!!



I had...

I had no
idea...!!



...When it
happened

I...was
teaching
class. I
had no
idea...



...

that my son
had killed
himself...



And...

Mamoru...

You're his mother! How could you let this happen!!

After school that day,

and took a call from my ex-husband—he had custody of Mamoru.

I hid in a deserted bathroom in the corner of the old school building...

But...I don't know why, either...

I'm sorry...

YOU COULD BE IN BIG TROUBLE!

HEY! THERE'S STILL COPS HANGING AROUND. USHIMARU-KUN!!

?

...

Why did you do it... Mamoru...?

Why...

W...well, the cops might ask you questions.

Let's just stop smoking here for a while, okay!!

That's Ushimaru-kun's voice...

Don't be stupid.

Why would I be in trouble?





**...I don't
get why
anyone
would kill
himself...**



**I really
don't get
it!**

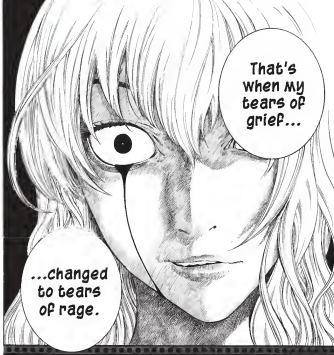
**If it's that
bad, why
doesn't he
come at me
with a bat or
something?!**

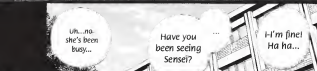
I'd just beat the crap
out of 'em though. We
do that.



**What a pain
in the ass.**

Seriously.







I know!

She does
tend to
worry...



...Oh. Well...
If you say
so...



...!

She's really...a
warm person,
you know?

...If I had
just told
you...

I'm sure.
That one
was for
me...



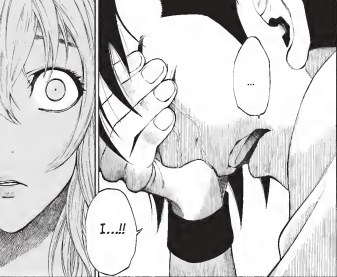
What? Are
you sure?

Sempai,
here. You
can have
this.

That Maworo...
was being
bullied...



Maybe...
this never
would have
happened.
I...





**Thank
you.**

**Wajima-
kun.**

That was
the end...



...of a long
day for
me and
Sherdog...



Yes,
Ma'am...



た
た
た
た
た



Yeah, yeah, yeah.

You better actually show up at club today!



...Well, I'm just a ghost member.

Ugh! I got you into that club! You're making me look bad!

So why aren't you more worked up about it?

Isn't this exactly where the London Academy Paper would come in?!



...So hey, Sherdog.

That was a tough one, even for the great Sherlock Holmes...

She was quite the formidable opponent...

The woman teacher, Karen Kikuchi...



That's Sherlock...

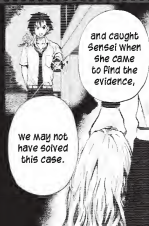
...I had to take a chance. Forgive me.

You really startled me when you took off with my shoe.



was long gone, thanks to those trash collectors.

You know that the real evidence



and caught Sensei when she came to find the evidence,

we may not have solved this case.



...Yeah, I know.

If I hadn't made that fake call,



Whaaaaat?!

Why?!

...you may be
doomed to a
life of solving
crimes!

Huh

Now that
the great
Sherlock
Holmes
has been
reborn...

What?

I'll have you
know this
isn't the
end of it,
Watson.

for me and
my dog to
solve.

Still, just as
Sherdog
predicted,

the future
was filled
with all
kinds of
mysteries

To be continued in Volume 2

Translation Notes

Japanese is a tricky language for most Westerners, and translation is often more art than science. For your edification and reading pleasure, here are notes on some of the places where we could have gone in a different direction with our translation of the work, or where a Japanese cultural reference is used.

Taro and Jiro (page 16)

As Takeru's Father suggests, there is a movie *Nankyoku Monogatari* (released in the United States as *Antarctica*) about a Japanese expedition to the South Pole, and the fate of the dogs that were left behind when the expedition failed. The two lead dogs are Taro and Jiro. The other dog names suggested by Takeru's Father are Pochi, the Japanese equivalent of Spot; Kachiko, after the Faithful dog who waited for his master every day at the Shibuya train station; Patrasche, the title dog in the book *A Dog of Flanders*; and Shiro, meaning White.

In My Office (page 20)

Officer Wajima's office will be found at the nearby *kōban*, loosely translated as "police box." *Kōban* are like miniature police stations, spread throughout the community, bringing the police close to the community so they can respond more readily to the citizens' needs.

Wa To Son (page 35)

While they usually represent ideas (words), Chinese characters can be used to represent syllables or sounds to spell foreign words phonetically. The name written on Takeru's bike is, of course, his name, Wajima Takeru (with his family name first, as is the custom in Asian languages). The three characters in his name can be pronounced Wa Jima Takeru, or Wa To Son. The *O* after the *T* is swallowed (almost silent), and so when said quickly, it forms the name Watson.

Plum Group, (page 38)

The closest thing Takeru has to the sort of hat Sherlock Holmes is known for wearing is his old preschool hat. You can tell it's from his earlier education based on the fact that his class, instead of having a number or letter, is named after a fruit.

Non-swimmers (page 151)

Just a bit of trivia: what Karen Kikuchi actually called this bunch was "hammer boys," because in Japan, someone who can't swim is called a "hammer."

Sherlock Bones volume 1 is a work of fiction. Names, characters, places, and incidents are the products of the author's imagination or are used fictitiously. Any resemblance to actual events, locales, or persons, living or dead, is entirely coincidental.

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